

Elia M. Powers, Ph.D.

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Towson University

Department of Mass Communication

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EDUCATION

- 2014 Ph.D., Journalism Studies, University of Maryland, College Park
Dissertation: How students access, filter, and evaluate digital news: Choices that shape what they consume and the implications for news literacy education
- 2010 M.A., American Culture Studies, Washington University in St. Louis
Thesis: Teaching news literacy in the age of new media: Why secondary school students should be taught to judge the credibility of the news they consume
- 2003 B.S., Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University

TEACHING

Positions

- 2015-Present Assistant Professor, Towson University, Dept. of Mass Communication
- 2014-2015 Visiting Assistant Professor, Towson University, Dept. of Mass Communication
- 2011-2014 Instructor, University of Maryland, College Park, Philip Merrill College of Journalism
- 2010-2011 Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Philip Merrill College of Journalism

Courses Taught

- MCOM651: Media & Politics (online graduate course, Towson University)
- MCOM496: Independent Study, Narrative Podcasting (Towson University)

MCOM407: Multimedia Reporting Capstone (Towson University)

MCOM402: Sports Journalism (Towson University)

MCOM 390: Mass Communication Research (Towson University)

MCOM358: News Editing (Towson University)

TSEM102: Media Literacy: The Active Media Consumer (Towson University)

JOUR300: Journalism Ethics (University of Maryland)

JOUR200: Journalism History (University of Maryland)

JOUR201: News Writing & Reporting (University of Maryland)

JOUR175: Media Literacy (lead teaching assistant, University of Maryland)

RESEARCH

Synopsis

Audience metrics and the impact of journalism; civic engagement and news/media literacy; media and disability

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Powers, E., & Curry, A. (2019). No quick fix: How journalists assess the impact and define the boundaries of solutions journalism. *Journalism Studies* (Online first).

Powers, E., Koliska, M., & Guha, P. (2019). Shouting matches and echo chambers: Perceived identity threats and political self-censorship on social media. *International Journal of Communication* (Accepted for publication).

Powers, E. (2019). How students access, filter, and evaluate digital news: Choices that shape what they consume and the implications for news literacy education. *Journal of Literacy and Technology*, 20(2), (Accepted for publication).

Powers, E. (2018). Selecting metrics, reflecting norms: How journalists in local newsrooms define, measure, and discuss impact. *Digital Journalism*, 6(4), 454-471.

Powers, E. (2017). My News Feed is filtered? Awareness of news personalization among college students. *Digital Journalism*, 5(10), 1315-1335.

Powers, E., & Haller, B. (2017). Journalism and mass communication textbook representations of verbal media skills: Implications for students with speech disabilities. *Journal of Media Literacy Education*, 9(2).

Konieczna, M., & **Powers, E.** (2016). What can nonprofit journalists actually do for democracy? *Journalism Studies*, 17(3), 1-17.

Powers, E. & Incollingo, J. (2016). Multimedia journalism professors on an island: Resources, support lacking at small programs. *Teaching Journalism & Mass Communication*, 6(1), 1-17.

Powers, E., & Koliska, M. (2016). Placing trust in others: How college students find news, determine credibility and develop their views of journalism in the digital age. *Journalism Education*, 5(1), 105-122.

Powers, E., Moeller, S., & Yuan, Y. (2016). Political engagement during a presidential election year: A case study of media literacy students. *Journal of Media Literacy Education*, 8(1), 1-13.

Yaros, R., Roberts, J., **Powers, E., & Steiner, L.** (2015). Serving the needs of the Latina community for health information. *Health, Culture and Society*, 8(1), 20-33.

Powers, E., Moeller, S., & Yuan, Y. (2014). The push and pull of politics: How media literacy students sign up for, stumble upon and seek out news at election time. *Journal of Digital and Media Literacy*, 2(2).

Powers, E. (2014). Building buzz and episodes with bite-sized content: Portlandia's formula for turning a video project into a television series. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 58(3), 342-364.

Yaros, R., **Powers, E., & Oh, S.** (2014). Incorrect terms used to portray possible cell phone risk. *Newspaper Research Journal*, 35(1), 96-107.

Powers, E. & Yaros, R. (2013). Cultivating support for nonprofit news organizations: Commitment, trust and donating audiences. *Journal of Communication Management*, 17(2), 157-170.

Powers, E. & Yaros, R. (2012). Supporting online nonprofit news organizations: Do financial contributions influence stakeholder expectations and engagement? *Journal of Media Business Studies*, 9(3), 41-62.

Moeller, S., **Powers, E., & Roberts, J.** (2012). The world unplugged and 24 hours without media": Media literacy to develop self-awareness regarding media use. *Comunicar: Scientific Journal of Media Education*, 39, 45-52.

Book Chapters

Powers, E. (2019). Selecting metrics, reflecting norms: How journalists in local newsrooms define, measure, and discuss impact. In M. Carlson (Ed.), *Measurable Journalism* (ahead of print) New York: Routledge.

Konieczna, M., & **Powers, E.** (2018). What can nonprofit journalists actually do for democracy? In S.A. Eldridge II & B. Franklin (Eds.), *The Routledge handbook of developments in digital journalism studies* (pp. 198-210) New York: Routledge.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers

Powers, E., & Curry, A. (2018). No quick fix: How journalists assess the impact and define the boundaries of solutions journalism. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Washington, D.C.

Powers, E. (2016). My News Feed is filtered? Awareness of news personalization among college students. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Minneapolis, MN.

Powers, E. (2016). Searching in a state of automaticity: How students access, filter, and evaluate digital news. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Minneapolis, MN.

Konieczna, M., & **Powers, E.** (2015). Conceptualizing the impact of investigative journalism: How a prominent journalistic nonprofit talks about its work. Paper presented at annual AEJMC conference, San Francisco, CA.

Powers, E., & Incollingo, J. (2013). Multimedia journalism professors on an island: Resources, support lacking at small programs. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Washington, D.C. — *Third Place, Small Programs Interest Group Division*

Yaros, R., Roberts, J., **Powers, E., & Steiner, L.** (2013). Serving the needs of the Latina community for health information. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Washington D.C.

Powers, E. (2012). From creative project to network series: Portlandia tracks the music industry into the age of digital media. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Chicago IL.

Powers, E., & Koliska, M. (2012). Seeing the world through a filter: How college students place trust in others to find news, determine credibility and shape their views of journalism in the digital age. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Chicago, IL.

Yaros, R., & **Powers, E.** (2012). Reporting a new cancer risk: Analyzing the

online coverage of the World Health Organization's announcement about possible dangers of cell phone use. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Chicago, IL.

Book Review

Powers, E. (2011). The young & the digital: What the migration to social-network sites, games, and anytime, anywhere media means for our future. *Journal of Media Literacy Education*, 3(1), 63-65.

Conference Panels/Invited Speaking Engagements

- 2019 Presenter, "Crowdsourcing and the Journalistic Engagement Practices Matrix." International Communication Association annual conference, Washington, D.C.

- 2019 Presenter, "Flipping the frame: Teaching students to produce solutions-oriented journalism." National Association of Media Literacy Education bi-annual conference, Washington, D.C.

- 2018 Organizer of panel, "How journalists define, measure, and discuss impact." Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) annual conference, Washington, D.C.

- 2017 Presenter, "How journalists define, measure, and discuss Impact." Online News Association annual conference, Washington D.C.

- 2016 Organizer of pre-conference session, "Teaching algorithmic transparency." AEJMC annual conference, Minneapolis, MN.

- 2016 Panelist, "Preparing your students for a world of disability." AEJMC annual conference, Minneapolis, MN.

- 2013 Organizer of panel, "Assessing media literacy: What skills and knowledge do students already possess and what are they learning in class?" 11th Annual Northeast Media Literacy Conference, University of Connecticut.

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Contributing Writer

2015.2018 MediaShift, *Washington, D.C.*

Covered media industry and journalism education trends for national website. Topics included analytics, measuring impact,

fake news, philanthropic giving to journalism, and journalism education.

2014.2017 Yahoo! Sports' ThePostGame, *Washington, D.C.*

Wrote lead articles on how former college basketball players adjust to their professional basketball careers overseas, and how the award-winning Big Ten Network documentary series 'The Journey' captures the spirit of March Madness.

2013.2014 Shirley Povich Center for Sports Journalism, *College Park, Md.*

Chapter, "Jim Murray," published in *Still No Cheering in the Press Box*, a series curated by the Povich Center that profiles prominent sports writers. Covered fallout from the scandal involving disgraced former Clippers owner Donald Sterling.

2012-2013 American Journalism Review, *College Park, Md.*

Wrote about media trends for national website. Topics included coverage of third-party candidates, future of sports journalism, and journalism education.

Staff Writer/Reporter

2008.2010 St. Louis Beacon (Now St. Louis Public Radio), *St. Louis, Mo.*

Covered politics, education, health, technology and other topics for a nonprofit news website. Wrote a news blog, "The Feed," that targeted young readers, and produced podcasts and helped create videos that appeared on the website.

2006.2008 Inside Higher Ed, *Washington, D.C.*

Covered national higher education issues for the national news website. Reported regularly on Congressional hearings and covered breaking news from campuses across the country. Developed, edited, and wrote the script for podcasts.

2005 The Daily Pilot, *Costa Mesa, Calif.*

Covered arts, education, politics, business, and health for a *Los Angeles Times* community newspaper covering Orange County.

2004 The Desert Sun, *Palm Springs, Calif.*

Wrote daily news and feature stories for regional newspaper. Topics included health, politics, and development and growth.

2003.2004 The Los Angeles Times, *Los Angeles, Calif.*

Covered high school sports and college events for the *Times*.
Wrote feature stories for weekly newspaper insert, *Campus Times*.

Internships

2002 The Sporting News, *St. Louis, Mo.*

Wrote and edited articles that appeared in the national sports publication.

2002 Washingtonian Magazine, *Washington D.C.*

Wrote a feature story that appeared in the regional magazine;
fact checked articles.

2001 WGN-TV, *Chicago, Ill.*

Logged and edited tape for the nightly sportscast.

MULTIMEDIA SKILLS

Data Journalism/Visualization: Certificate in Data-Driven Journalism from the Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas. Excel, SPSS, Tableau, Google Maps & Google Earth, DocumentCloud, Census Reporter, BatchGeo

Graphics/Design: Adobe InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator; Canva

Video/Audio: Certificate in Multimedia Journalism Basics from the Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas as the University of Texas. Adobe Premiere, Apple Clips, Adobe Audition, Audacity.

Blogging Platforms: Blogger, WordPress, Medium, Weebly

Programming: Basic HTML/CSS, JQuery

HONORS/AWARDS

2018 Selected participant, Solutions Journalism Educators Academy,
University of Oregon

2017 Innovative journalism educator, part of *MediaShift's*
EducationShift20 series on top faculty and practitioners

- 2014 Fellowship for top journalism studies Ph.D. student, Philip Merrill College of Journalism, University of Maryland, College Park
- 2013 Peer-reviewed conference paper, "Multimedia Journalism Professors on an Island: Resources, Support Lacking at Small Programs," earned third place in AEJMC's Small Program Interest Group Division
- 2012 Peer-reviewed conference paper, "Seeing the World Through a Filter: How College Students Place Trust in Others," earned third place in the top student paper competition in AEJMC's Mass Communication and Society division
- 2012 Distinguished teaching assistant, Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Maryland, College Park
- 2012 Thomas J. Aylward Scholarship, a merit-based award given to one doctoral student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism
- 2011 Contributing writer to "The State of Hate," a series on hate crimes that won first place in the comprehensive coverage or investigative journalism category by the American Jewish Press Association

SERVICE

Professional

- 2016-Present Reviewer, *Digital Journalism*
- 2016-Present Reviewer, *Journal of Media Literacy Education*
- 2016-Present Reviewer, *International Journal of Cultural Studies*
- 2017-Present Reviewer, *Journalism Studies*
- 2018-Present Reviewer, *Media & Communication*
- 2015-Present Reviewer, AEJMC Newspaper & Online News and Mass Communication & Society Divisions
- 2015.2017 Member, AEJMC Mass Communication & Society Midwinter Committee member
- 2017 Mentor, AEJMC's Newspaper & Online News Division

mentorship program

Department

- 2019-present Chair, Towson University Department of Mass Communication journalism/new media lecturer search committee
- 2018-2019 Chair, Towson University Communication Management Graduate Program master's thesis, Matthew Scales: "Local Media Framing of Post-Freddie Gray Violence in Baltimore: A Content Analysis of *The Baltimore Sun*, *City Paper*, and *Afro Newspapers*"
- 2018-Present Chair, Towson University Department of Mass Communication faculty training and brownbag committee
- 2018-Present Member, Towson University Department of Mass Communication working group on curriculum change (new course creation: Media Audiences & Analytics)
- 2017-2019 Member, Towson University Department of Mass Communication journalism/new media subcommittee on curriculum change (revising journalism/new media sequence)
- 2015-Present Journalism/new media liaison, Towson University Department of Mass Communication curriculum committee (reviewing new courses)
- 2015.2018 Editor, Towson University Mass Communication website
- 2016-2017 Member, Towson University Department of Mass Communication public relations lecturer search committee

College

- 2019-present College of Fine Arts & Communication Office of Academic Innovation Gold Reviewer, online courses
- 2012-2013 President, Merrill Graduate Students Association, Philip Merrill College of Journalism, University of Maryland, College Park

University

- 2018-present Faculty adviser, Towson University Zeta Beta Tau fraternity